Tsunami warning centre in Hyderabad

456. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the establishment of Tsunami warning centre in Hyderabad;

(b) whether Government are confident that it would give the exact prediction of Tsunami;

(c) if so, the details therefor; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) Department is setting up an Early Warning System for Tsunami and Storm Surges in the Indian Ocean Region with the following components:

- installation of Tsunami warning sensors close to the ocean bottom at appropriate locales in the Indian Ocean, with real time connectivity;
- Tide gauge and data buoys networking to validate arrival of Tsunami waves at the coast;
- strengthening of the existing seismological network to indicate, near real time occurrence of tsunamigenic earthquakes;
- Modelling of the inundation scenarios for the entire coast and mapping of potential risk areas;
- collection of information, analysis and generating status advisories.

The warning system is scheduled to be operational by September, 2007. A centre would be set up at Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad on a 24x7 basis.

Currently 11 tide gauges have been installed along the coastal areas of the country and connected through Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) for real time communication to National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) and in turn automated data delivery to INCOIS Hyderabad. NIOT has processed procurement of bottom pressure recorders which will detect tsunami waves in the deep sea.

The detection of Tsunami waves through Bottom Pressure Recorders and tide gauges are the reliable methods.

Grievance of NRIs

457. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are initiated for redressing grievances of Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) on issues pertaining to violation of labour laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof including number of such cases dealt pertaining to NRIs of various gulf countries for the last three years, year-wise, country-wise; and

(c) if so, the details of recruitment agencies, if any, associated with above recruitment rackets and the steps taken to prevent such violations of labour laws, if any?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Complaints received from Indian workers on issues pertaining to violation of labour laws are taken up by the Indian Missions with the concerned foreign employer and if necessary, with the concerned Government. Most of the problems are resolved at this stage. In respect of the problems that remain, the worker concerned is advised to seek redressal through the Labour Courts where appropriate assistance is provided by the Mission to represent the worker's claim.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected from the Missions in gulf countries and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Opening of Pravasi Centres

458. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action is taken to open Pravasi Centres attached to Indian embassies;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the year in which the decision